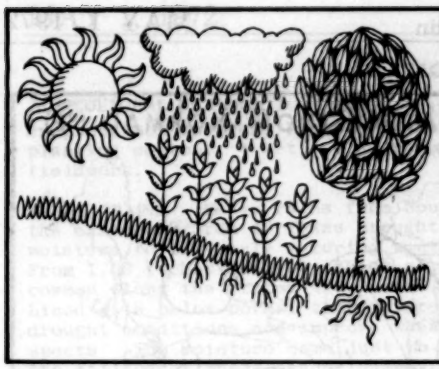

Weekly Weather & Crop Bulletin

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
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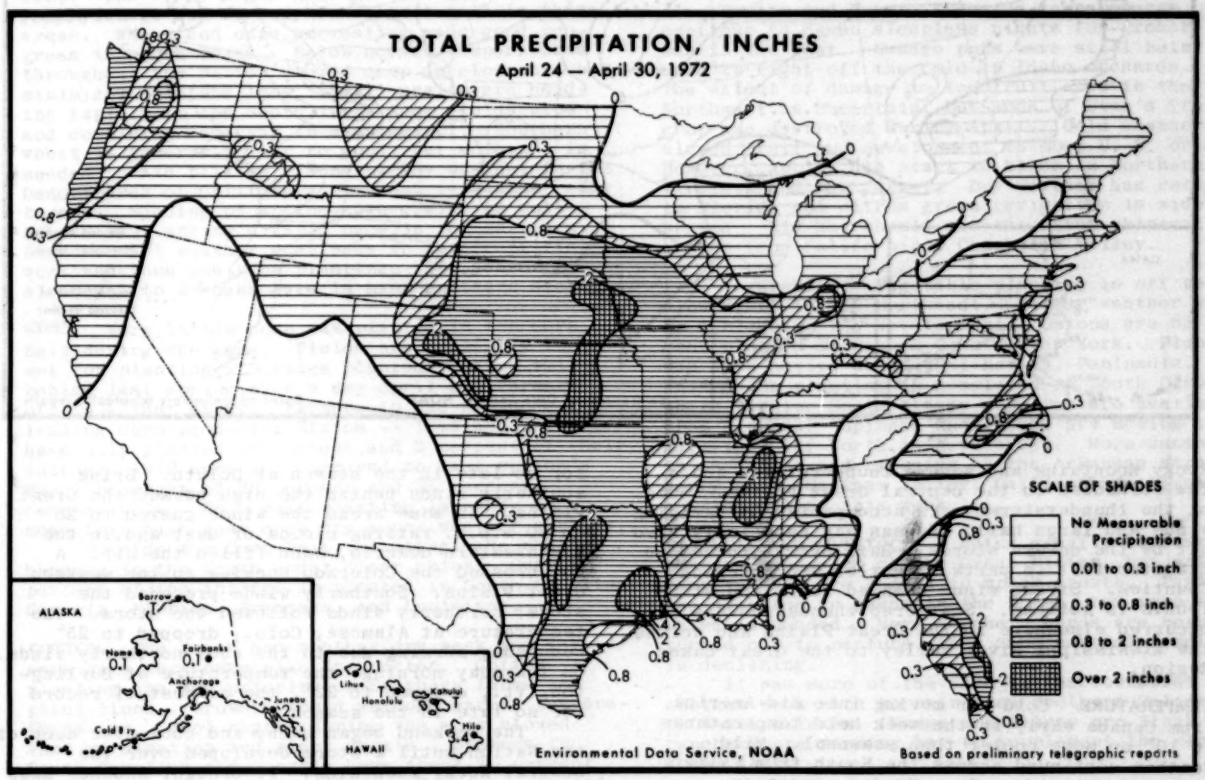


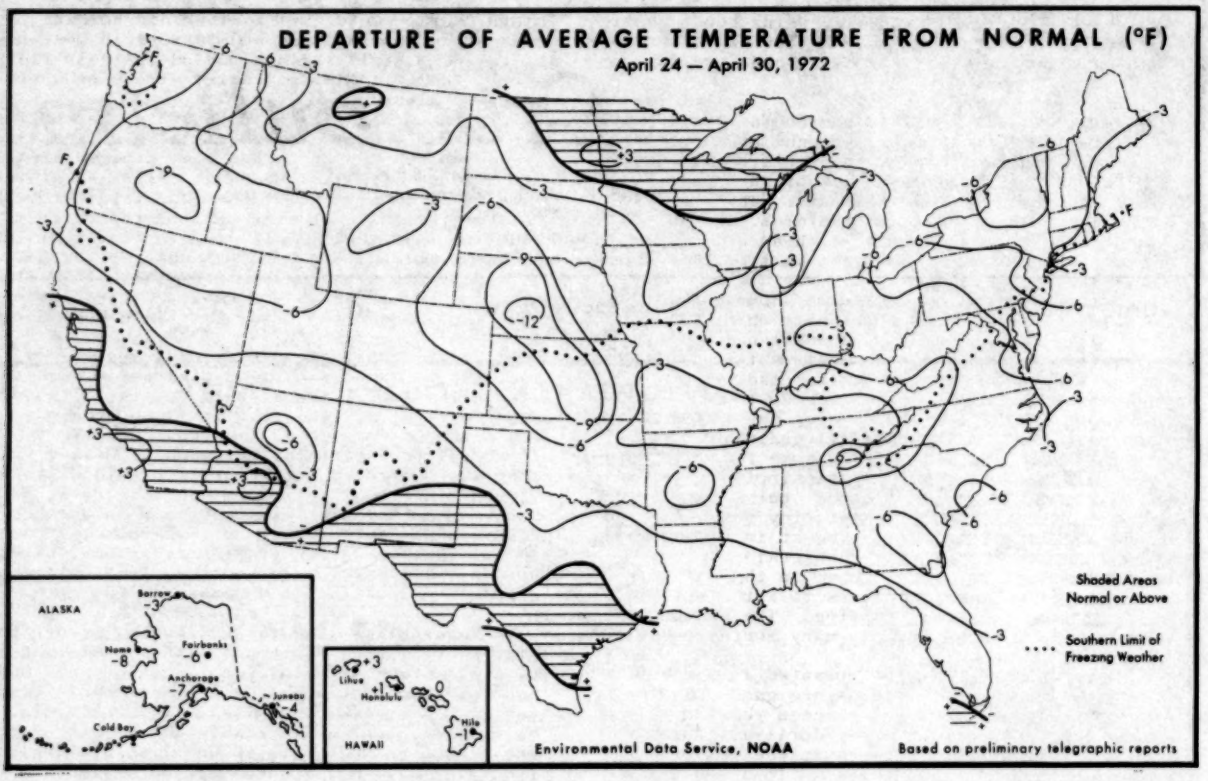
NATIONAL WEATHER SUMMARY

HIGHLIGHTS: Parts of the Southwest have received no rain in the first 4 months of 1972. Heavy thundershowers soaked parts of mid-America. Temperatures averaged cooler than normal over most of the Nation.

PRECIPITATION: Early in the week, a cold front stretched from a storm centered north of Maine, southward to Georgia, thence westward to the Lower Rio Grande. Showers dampened the area from the Lower Great Lakes to New England and southward to the Florida Peninsula. Showers also fell in the Far West from Vancouver to the middle California coast with snow in the higher elevations in the north. Strong winds raised clouds of dust and sand in the California deserts. The winds at Palm Springs, Calif., gusted to 61 m.p.h. Monday afternoon.

A slow moving storm crossed the central Rocky Mountains to the western Great Plains about midweek. Heavy snow fell at Denver, Colo., Wednesday, accumulating to 12 inches by evening. The snow was accompanied by strong gusty winds. The winds at Colorado Springs, Colo., gusted to 60 m.p.h. Cold fronts stretched northward from the storm center to Lake Manitoba and southward to the Trans-Pecos in Texas. Generous rains fell along the fronts. Precipitation was especially heavy from eastern Nebraska to north-central Texas. Fair weather prevailed over most areas away from the storm center and the fronts.

The storm dissipated over the Great Plains over the weekend but another storm developed in the central Rocky Mountains and moved to the nearby Great Plains. This storm brought several inches of snow to some localities in the northern



Rocky Mountains and severe thunderstorms and a few tornadoes in the central Great Plains. Some of the thunderstorms were accompanied by damaging winds and large hail. Kansas was especially hard hit by the severe storms. Hail over 2 inches in diameter fell in parts of Butler and Anderson Counties. Strong winds damaged roofs and store fronts in Abilene. Scattered thundershowers also occurred elsewhere in the Great Plains and across the Mississippi River Valley to the Great Lakes Region.

TEMPERATURE: Cold air moving into mid-America from Canada early in the week held temperatures to 10° or more cooler than seasonal. Mild weather continued across the South from California to Florida. Some Monday afternoon temperatures were: Blythe, Calif., 97°; Cotulla, Tex., 93°; Fort Myers and Palm Beach, Fla., 87°. The air over the southwestern deserts was very dry. The relative humidity at Blythe, Calif., was 2°. A large High was centered over Wisconsin Tuesday. The temperature at Duluth, Minn., dropped to 12°, the coldest temperature of record for so late in the season at Duluth. Brisk southerly winds behind the High warmed the Great Plains. In some areas the winds gusted to 25 to 50 m.p.h. raising clouds of dust and,in the southwestern deserts, sand filled the air. A Low crossed the Colorado Rockies to the western Great Plains. Southerly winds preceded the storm; northerly winds followed the storm. The temperature at Alamosa, Colo., dropped to 25° Wednesday morning due to the cool northerly winds. On Thursday morning, the temperature at Burlington, Vt., dropped to 22°, the coldest of record for so late in the season.

The weekend began sunny and cool over much of the Nation until a storm developed over the central Rocky Mountains. It brought another mass of cold air to the Great Basin and Rocky Mountains and mild temperatures to mid-America.

Weekly mean temperatures were below normal over most of the Nation. Parts of the Northwest and the central Great Plains averaged 6° or more cooler than normal.

L. W. Dye

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

AGRICULTURAL HIGHLIGHTS: Heavy rains boost wheat crop outlook on Great Plains. * Southern farmers planting cotton. * Wet fields retard Corn Belt fieldwork.

SMALL GRAINS: Heavy rains from South Dakota into the eastern 2/3rds of Texas brought much needed moisture to the early maturing winter wheat crop. From 1.50 inches to 3.00 inches of rain was common along the storms wide path. The rain combined with below-normal temperatures to ease drought conditions and improve wheat crop prospects. The moisture came just in time to aid the filling of wheat heads in many States. However, in some areas of Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas, the rains came too late to benefit this year's crop. The early effects of drought and winter freeze damage had already taken it's toll in these areas. Wheat and oats harvesting made good progress in south Texas. Below normal temperatures throughout the Nation slowed crop development, but minimized moisture loss. Small grains are heading rapidly in the South, with some fields ripe and combining underway in Mississippi. Southern wheat is generally fair to good, but moisture is needed to aid filling. Some barley was cut in the Desert area of California -- wheat is almost ready to cut. Seeding of spring-sown grains is well behind last spring's rapid pace in the Northern States. Wet weather continues to interrupt fieldwork and thus postpone planting. The season is already 1 to 2 weeks late in many Northern sections.

CORN: Very little corn was planted in the Corn Belt during the week. Fields are generally too wet for planting. Acreage planted remains well behind last spring when a dry April got farmers off to a fast start. Farmers in the Nation's 2 leading corn producing States -- Iowa and Illinois have only planted 10 percent and 2 percent of their intended 1972 acreage, compared to last spring's May 1 progress of 20 percent and 35 percent, respectively. Corn Belt planting is ready to move into high gear once dry sunny weather arrives.

Outside the Corn Belt, planting made rapid headway in the South under clear skies. Over 80 percent of the acreage is planted in South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Arkansas, and Louisiana.

COTTON: The South had another dry week and farmers were very busy planting cotton. Cotton planting has top priority on Southern farms and plantations. Growers would welcome warmer temperatures as cool nights during the week slowed seed germination and plant growth. Growers in South Carolina and Georgia have about 70 percent of their crop in, while Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana growers are reaching the halfway mark. Texas cotton is 30 percent seeded, with most fields planted in the southern half of the State. The California crop is mostly planted.

SOYBEANS: Very few soybeans were planted. Southern farmers are concentrating on getting their cotton acreage in before they switch to soybean planting. Fields are too wet to work in the Corn Belt, and here most farmers will plant corn first, thus full scale soybean planting is still a few weeks away.

OTHER CROPS: Cold, wet weather did nothing to pick up the spring pace and farmers in most regions of the U. S. fell farther behind in their fieldwork. The cold also put extra stress on crops that are planted.

Sorghum planting is approaching the halfway mark in Texas. Some early acreage was also seeded in the South. Texas rice growers are in the wrap-up stages of seeding. Arkansas growers have about 15 percent of their crop left to plant. Cold weather did not stop potato growers from planting this year's fall crop in Southwest Idaho and Long Island, New York. A cold spring has left Maryland tobacco plant beds with thin stands and some reseeding is underway. Tobacco transplanting was active in the Carolinas and Georgia.

Fruits and Nuts: Freezing temperatures continue to cause sleepless nights for orchardmen in the West. Smudge pots were still being used to fight off the cold in Idaho orchards. The extent of damage to the fruit crop in the Northwest is uncertain, but much of Utah's fruit crop was destroyed during April. Cold weather slowed fruit bud development in most U. S. orchards. However, apples did start to bloom in Northern Virginia and New Jersey. Dry weather has returned to Florida and citrus grove irrigation is widespread. Mid-May should see the first shipment of grapes from California's Coachella Valley.

Vegetables: Vegetable planting is off to a slow start in the Northeast. Warmer weather would be a blessing for development. Onions are 85 percent planted in Orange County, New York. Planting was also active on the Del-Mar-Va. Peninsula. Watermelon planting is completed in South Carolina, while farhter South steady supplies are available from Florida. Spinach and greens are moving to market as far North as New Jersey. More sunshine is needed to aid ripening of the Arkansas strawberry crop. Salinas Valley, California will start cutting celery this week.

PASTURES AND LIVESTOCK: Rains greatly improved pasture prospects on the Great Plains, but milder temperatures are needed to spark growth. Pastures are starting to green in the North, but more sunshine is needed. More Northern herds are being turned out to pasture, thus supplemental feeding is declining.

It was more of the same in the Southwest -- another week with no rain from Southern California to Western Texas. Range conditions are bleak and ranchers are feeding hay to supplement the meager grass diet.

Steve J. Pscodna
Agricultural Statistician

Temperature and Precipitation Data for the Week Ending Midnight, l.s.t., APRIL 30, 1972

States and Stations	Temperature °F Average	Temperature °F Departure*	Precipitation Inches Total	Precipitation Inches Departure*
ALA.Birmingham. . .	62	- 5	T	- .9
Mobile.	69	- 2	0	-1.3
Montgomery. . . .	64	- 4	.2	- .7
ALASKA.Anchorage. .	34	- 7	T	- .1
Barrow.	5	- 3	T	0
Fairbanks	32	- 6	.1	+ .1
Juneau.	38	- 4	2.1	+1.4
Nome.	19	- 8	.1	- .1
ARIZ.Flagstaff. . .	41	- 6	0	- .2
Phoenix	74	+ 3	0	- .1
Tucson.	68	- 1	0	- .1
Winslow	55	- 5	0	- .1
Yuma.	75	+ 1	0	0
ARK.Fort Smith. . .	62	- 4	.4	- .7
Little Rock . . .	60	- 7	.8	- .4
CALIF.Bakersfield .	63	- 3	T	- .1
Eureka.	48	- 3	.1	- .4
Fresno.	63	- 1	T	- .2
Los Angeles . . .	67	+ 3	0	- .1
Red Bluff	61	- 3	.1	- .3
San Diego	63	0	T	- .1
San Francisco . .	58	+ 1	.1	- .1
Stockton.	62	0	.1	0
COLO.Denver	44	- 6	3.1	+2.6
Grand Junction. .	53	- 4	0	- .1
Pueblo.	52	- 4	.2	- .2
CONN.Bridgeport . .	50	- 2	.1	- .8
Hartford.	49	- 4	.2	- .6
D.C.Washington. . .	55	- 5	.1	- .7
FLA.Apalachicola. .	70	0	0	- .8
Ft. Myers	75	0	.3	- .3
Jacksonville. . .	66	- 6	1.5	+ .7
Key West.	78	+ 1	.1	- .5
Lakeland.	71	- 3	.2	- .6
Miami	75	- 1	1.1	- .1
Orlando	71	- 3	.3	- .4
Tallahassee . . .	68	- 3	.2	- .7
Tampa	72	- 2	.4	- .2
GA.Atlanta.	60	- 4	T	- .9
Augusta	62	- 5	T	- .8
Macon	63	- 6	T	- .8
Savannah.	65	- 4	.8	0
HAWAII.Hilo	71	- 1	3.4	+ .9
Honolulu.	76	+ 1	T	- .2
Kahului	74	0	T	-1.2
Lihue	76	+ 3	.1	- .6
IDAHO.Boise	48	- 7	T	- .3
Lewiston.	50	- 5	T	- .3
Pocatello	44	- 7	T	- .2
ILL.Cairo	62	- 2	.1	- .8
Chicago	51	- 2	.1	- .6
Moline.	52	- 4	.6	- .2
Peoria.	51	- 5	.9	- .1
Rockford.	50	- 3	.1	- .7
Springfield . . .	53	- 5	.4	- .4
IND.Evansville. . .	56	- 6	.3	- .6
Fort Wayne. . . .	50	- 4	.9	+ .1
Indianapolis. . .	54	- 2	.1	- .8
South Bend. . . .	48	- 5	.3	- .6
IOWA.Burlington . .	52	- 4	1.4	+ .5
Des Moines. . . .	52	- 2	.8	+ .2
Dubuque	50	- 2	1.1	+ .3
Sioux City. . . .	51	- 4	1.3	+ .7
KANS.Concordia. . .	49	- 9	2.5	+1.9
Dodge City. . . .	51	- 7	1.9	+1.3
Goodland.	46	- 7	.6	+ .1
Topeka.	53	- 6	1.9	+1.0
Wichita	52	-10	2.5	+1.8
KY.Lexington. . . .	53	- 6	.1	- .7
Louisville. . . .	56	- 3	.1	- .8
LA.Baton Rouge. . .	70	- 1	.8	- .2
Lake Charles. . .	70	- 1	.5	- .6
New Orleans . . .	70	- 1	.4	- .6
Shreveport. . . .	66	- 3	.7	- .3
MAINE.Caribou . . .	38	- 5	.1	- .5
Portland.	45	- 2	.1	- .7
MD.Baltimore. . . .	51	- 8	T	- .8
MASS.Boston	50	- 2	.1	- .7
Chatham	45	---	.9	----
MICH.Alpena	42	- 3	.2	- .5
Detroit	48	- 3	T	- .8
Flint	47	- 2	.1	- .6
Grand Rapids. . .	48	- 3	.1	- .6
Houghton Lake . .	46	0	T	- .6
Lansing	46	- 5	.1	- .7
Marquette	42	- 2	T	- .7
Muskegon.	47	- 3	T	- .7
S.Ste.Marie . . .	44	0	0	- .5
MINN.Duluth	43	0	T	- .6
Internatl Falls .	51	+ 7	T	- .4
Minneapolis . . .	50	0	.1	- .4
Rochester	48	- 2	.2	- .4
St. Cloud	49	0	T	- .6
MISS.Jackson. . . .	65	- 3	.7	- .3
Meridian.	64	- 4	.4	- .7
MO.Columbia	56	- 3	1.3	+ .4
Kansas City . . .	57	- 3	1.9	+1.0
St. Louis	56	- 4	.8	- .1
Springfield . . .	59	- 1	1.4	+ .3
MONT.Billings . . .	47	- 5	.8	+ .5
Glasgow	49	- 1	.4	+ .1
Great Falls . . .	49	0	.3	0
Havre	50	0	.5	+ .3
Helena.	45	- 4	T	- .3
Kalispell	45	- 4	.1	- .1
Miles City. . . .	49	- 3	.1	- .2
Missoula.	47	- 2	.1	- .2
NEBR.Grand Island .	49	- 6	1.7	+1.0
Lincoln	52	- 5	2.9	+2.2
Norfolk	49	- 5	3.3	+2.7
North Platte. . .	41	-12	1.2	+ .6
Omaha	50	- 5	2.8	+2.1
Valentine	43	- 9	2.0	+1.5
NEV.Ely	42	- 5	0	- .2
Las Vegas	68	- 1	0	- .1
Reno.	48	- 3	T	- .1
Winnemucca. . . .	45	- 5	T	- .2
N.H.Concord	44	- 5	.1	- .6
N.J.Atlantic City .	49	- 6	.5	- .3
Trenton	52	- 4	.2	- .6
N.MEX.Albuquerque .	58	- 2	0	- .1
Roswell	63	0	0	- .3
N.Y.Albany.	46	- 6	T	- .7
Binghamton. . . .	44	- 4	T	- .7
Buffalo	44	- 5	T	- .7
New York.	51	- 5	.1	- .7
Rochester	45	- 5	T	- .6
Syracuse.	44	- 7	T	- .7
N.C.Asheville . . .	54	- 6	T	- .7
Charlotte	59	- 5	.1	- .7
Greensboro. . . .	57	- 4	T	- .8
Hatteras.	60	- 3	T	- .7
Raleigh	59	- 4	.4	- .5
Wilmington. . . .	59	- 7	T	- .6
N.DAK.Bismarck. . .	49	- 2	.3	0
Fargo	52	+ 3	T	- .5
Williston	47	- 3	.2	- .1
OHIO.Akron-Canton .	46	- 8	.1	- .7
Cincinnati. . . .	54	- 3	.4	- .5
Cleveland	45	- 7	T	- .8
Columbus.	50	- 5	T	- .9
Dayton.	51	- 4	.2	- .6
Toledo.	48	- 4	.4	- .3
Youngstown. . . .	45	- 7	T	- .9
OKLA.Okla. City . .	59	- 5	1.9	+1.0
Tulsa	60	- 3	1.0	0
OREG.Astoria. . . .	47	- 4	1.0	0
Burns	41	- 9	T	- .2
Medford	47	- 7	T	- .3
Pendleton	50	- 6	T	- .2
Portland.	49	- 6	.4	0
Salem	47	- 7	.4	- .1
PA.Allentown. . . .	50	- 4	T	- .9
Erie	41	- 7	0	- .9
Harrisburg. . . .	50	- 7	T	- .8
Philadelphia. . .	52	- 4	.3	- .6
Pittsburgh. . . .	49	- 5	.2	- .5
Scranton.	46	- 7	T	- .8
R.I.Providence. . .	49	- 2	.2	- .7
S.C.Charleston. . .	62	- 7	T	- .7
Columbia.	62	- 5	0	- .9
Greenville. . . .	58	- 7	.1	- .8
S.DAK.Aberdeen. . .	50	- 1	.5	- .1
Huron	48	- 3	1.8	+1.3
Rapid City. . . .	43	- 8	1.7	+1.2
Sioux Falls . . .	48	- 4	1.6	+1.0
TENN.Chattanooga. .	56	- 9	0	- .9
Knoxville	58	- 5	T	- .8
Memphis	62	- 4	1.6	+ .6
Nashville	59	- 5	T	- .9
TEX.Abilene	66	- 2	.2	- .5
Amarillo.	58	- 4	T	- .4
Austin.	72	+ 1	1.0	+ .1
Beaumont.	70	- 1	4.2	+3.1
Brownsville . . .	76	- 1	1.5	+1.1
Corpus Christi. .	76	+ 1	1.5	+1.0
Dallas	68	- 1	3.1	+2.1
Del Rio	75	0	.1	- .4
El Paso	69	+ 2	0	- .1
Fort Worth. . . .	68	- 1	2.5	+1.5
Galveston	74	+ 2	.5	- .2
Houston	71	0	1.9	+1.1
Lubbock	65	+ 1	.4	0
Midland	71	+ 2	T	- .3
San Angelo. . . .	69	- 1	.1	- .7
San Antonio . . .	73	+ 2	1.2	+ .5
Victoria.	75	+ 2	.4	- .2
Waco.	70	0	1.5	+ .6
Wichita Falls . .	63	- 5	1.8	+1.0
UTAH.Blanding . . .	50	- 2	0	- .2
Salt Lake City. .	47	- 7	.1	- .3
VT.Burlington . . .	39	- 8	T	- .6
VA.Lynchburg. . . .	56	- 5	T	- .7
Norfolk	56	- 6	.7	- .1
Richmond.	56	- 6	T	- .8
Roanoke	54	- 7	.2	- .5
WASH.Colville . . .	44	- 7	.1	- .2
Omak.	49	- 5	T	- .2
Quillayute. . . .	44	- 5	1.2	0
Seattle-Tacoma. .	50	- 2	.6	+ .1
Spokane	45	- 7	T	- .2
Walla Walla . . .	53	- 5	T	- .3
Yakima.	47	- 8	T	- .1
W.VA.Beckley. . . .	49	- 6	.1	- .8
Charleston. . . .	56	- 4	.1	- .7
Huntington. . . .	54	- 5	.4	- .3
Parkersburg . . .	54	- 5	T	- .7
WIS.Green Bay . . .	49	0	T	- .6
La Crosse	51	- 2	.3	- .4
Madison	49	- 1	.1	- .6
Milwaukee	44	- 4	.1	- .6
WYO.Casper.	44	- 4	.3	- .2
Cheyenne.	40	- 7	.3	- .2
Lander.	45	- 3	.3	- .4
Sheridan.	47	- 2	.1	- .4
P.R. San Juan . . .	80	+ 3	.6	- .5

* Departures are from 30-year means (1931-60).

Based on preliminary reports

CONDENSED STATE SUMMARIES

These summaries provide brief descriptions of condition and activities important on a national scale. Detailed reports of crop and weather conditions during the growing season are contained in State issues of Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletins published by field offices of the Statistical Reporting Service, U.S.D.A. in cooperation with NOAA Climatologists.

ALABAMA: Sunny mild days and clear cool nights all week becoming partly cloudy and warmer over weekend with scattered light showers. Temperatures a little cooler than normal. Little or no rainfall most sections. Planting cotton passed halfway mark slightly ahead last year. Around 3/4 planted south and parts central Alabama. Three-fifths in ground Tennessee Valley. Cool nights slowed germination seed and growth young seedlings. Corn planting 1/2 complete, about same as year ago. Cotton planting has priority. Peanuts 75% planted, compared with 67% last year. Moisture needed to bring crop to stand. About 80% small grains heading. Moisture needed during this period of development. Many wheatfields south and central severely damaged by rust. Harvest late spring potatoes underway Baldwin County. Tomato setting heavy Blount and St. Clair Counties. Peaches Chilton County look good. Pastures supplying short to adequate grazing.

ARIZONA: Skies were mostly clear and temperatures averaged slightly below normal most sections. No precipitation. Cotton growth good Yuma. Normal progress central areas. Planting continues southeast. Wheat, barley approaching hard dough stage western, central areas. Good growth southeast. Some grazing oats and barley northern counties. Early plantings sorghums making good progress. Planting continues all areas. Safflower good progress. Second cutting alfalfa underway. Harvest spring lettuce continues Salt River Valley, Harquahala Valley, Pinal County. Harvest full swing Pima County. Quality yields only fair--result unseasonably warm weather during early development. Yuma cantaloupes making good progress. Maricopa and Yuma Counties Valencia orange and grapefruit picking in progress. Groves both areas good. Range conditions continue decline. Windy conditions accelerate soil moisture loss. Higher elevations fair to poor. Desert mostly poor. Moderate supplemental feeding holding livestock fair to good.

ARKANSAS: Temperatures 1° to 6° below normal with greatest departures central portion. Coolest midweek. Highest 84° at Camden on 30th. Lowerst 34° at Calico Rock and Gilbert on 24th. Rainfall heaviest across northern 1/3 of State with weekly amounts generally in excess of 1.00 inch. Greatest amount at Batesville with 2.44 inches. Over southern 2/3 of State, amounts varied considerably with Hot Springs reporting 2.04 inches, most areas receiving 0.50 inch or more. Rainfall occurred mainly late in week and on weekend. Planting rice, cotton good progress, except northeast. Showers late week brought needed moisture many central and southern areas, but added to surplus moisture situation northeast. South-central and southwest remain dry. Cotton 35% planted, 40% last year. Progress slow northeast. Rice about 85% seeded, same as last year. Very little planting soybeans, waiting until cotton and rice end. Corn and sorghum planting well advanced, except extreme northeast. Wheat and oats mostly good north, only fair to good south. Recent rains should be beneficial as heads filling. Hay prospects improved, alfalfa harvest increasing. Apple and grape prospects mostly good, some frost damage northwest. Strawberry harvest increasing, but cool nights slow ripening. Good volume expected May 10. Tomatoes making good growth but need warmer weather. Pastures improving, livestock in good condition.

CALIFORNIA: Light rains northern 1/3 of State on 24th, amounts ranging from near 1.00 inch on north coast to about 0.25 inch Sacramento Valley, central coast. Several warm days, strong northerly winds. Average temperatures near normal except 5° below normal in Cascades, 5° above normal northeastern interior, downtown Los Angeles. Barley harvest underway Desert. Wheat about to start. Moisture stress Central Valley and Coast. More fields cut for hay. Cotton growth increasing, mostly planted. Sugar beet harvest continues Desert. Rice planting continues. Winds caused some washing and check breaks. Field corn, milo, dry bean planting continues. Alfalfa 2d cutting San Joaquin, 1st cutting completed Sacramento. Harvest grapes Coachella Valley expect May 15. Sulfuring all districts. First apricots Winters area shipped April 28. Peaches, plums, prunes, nectarines continue size normally. Navel orange nearly complete southern California, nearing completion San Joaquin Valley. Valencia continue increase. Picking lemons continues steady pace. Harvesting grapefruit expected increase. Asparagus, Delta going mostly processing. Broccoli, Salinas, to increase. Santa Maria continue good volume. South Coast cabbage to increase slightly. Imperial Valley carrots continue active. Oxnard and Orange celery to increase slightly. Salinas to start this week. Salinas lettuce active, West Side near completion. Imperial onions increasing. Kern potatoes increasing. Strawberries South Coast decreasing, Central Coast increasing. Market tomatoes Imperial increasing. Stockwater supplies short. Sheep shearing progressing. Some weaning and branding being done. Some young turkeys turned on ranges.

COLORADO: General storm and cold last half week. Moderate to heavy rain and light snow most areas southeast and mountains. Extremely heavy snow driven by high winds isolated communities in Denver area blocking roads and breaking power lines. High winds caused local damage other eastern plains. Lower areas southwest continued dry. Conditions fall-seeded grain improved. Precipitation eastern plains slowed deterioration winter wheat crop. Southeast received limited amount moisture; crop rated fair to poor. Winter wheat 50% jointed, winter barley 40%. Oats 90% seeded, 55% emerged. Spring barley 90% seeded, 40% emerged--conditions both crops very good. Corn seeding active, 28% in ground; sugar beets 85% seeded, 24% emerged. Cool damp soil slowing seed and growth. Alfalfa condition declined, cool temperatures slowing growth all areas. Insect damage to crops light, but cutworms and mites still active wheat and alfalfa. Range conditions fair southern half region. Some livestock losses from midweek storm generally along front range.

FLORIDA: Generally cloudy with scattered showers and few thunderstorms. Temperatures averaged near or a little below normal with largest departures north and northwest. Rainfall totals generally less than 0.50 inch with isolated accumulations

in excess of 1.00 inch approaching near 8.00 inches at West Palm Beach. Fieldwork progressed during week. Most corn planted. Land preparation for soybeans underway. Pastures improved north and west, more rain needed central and south. Cattle and calves good. Citrus good condition. Need more rain, irrigation widespread. New crop entering setting period and beginning to size. Valencia harvest heavy, grapefruit declining as supply runs out. Heavy rains over past weekend will probably lower prospects for beans, cucumbers, eggplant, and squash Pompano area. Some fields sweet corn and celery Everglades may be adversely affected. Sweet corn, potatoes, cucumbers, cabbage, celery, and tomatoes continue good volume. Steady supply watermelons available. Other commodities seasonal supply.

GEORGIA: Light rain extreme north and parts of south late in week. Otherwise little or no rain since April 22 and 23. Many areas continue dry. Unusually cool most of week. Freezing in mountains and high 20's much of north and central on 1 or 2 mornings. Several degrees cooler than previous week and 2° to 5° below normal. Soil moisture adequate north, mostly short south. Farmers very busy during week. Activities varied from land preparation and planting north to cultivating tobacco and other crops and additional planting south. Cool temperatures slowed seed germination and early growth. Tobacco transplanting completed. Cotton 72% planted, 28% up to stand. Corn 80%, peanuts 73%, soybeans 6% planted. Wheat condition mostly poor to fair resulting from disease. Other grains generally fair to good. Tobacco, corn, peanuts, and cotton remain fair to good condition--some hail damage several counties. Budworms becoming problem on tobacco. Peaches good condition. Vegetable and melons mostly good. Cool nighttime temperatures and shortage moisture some areas slowing progress. Cabbage harvest increasing, few snap beans and squash being marketed. Melons putting on runners. Percent cotton planted previous week in error, should have been 47% instead of 97%.

HAWAII: Growing conditions favorable for crop growth and maturity. Light showers mainly mountain areas. Ample soil moisture. Sugarcane and pineapple harvesting about normal. Supplies bananas light, papayas increasing seasonally. Vegetables adequate supply. Cattle and pasture fair to good.

IDAHO: Temperatures averaged below normal for 3d consecutive week; departures ranged 1° to 6° below normal. Lowest temperatures again in teens higher valleys and in 20's elsewhere except 32° at Lewiston. Precipitation variable from zero to 0.33 inch. Weather putting stress on crops. Growth is slow for both grasses and field crops. Fieldwork and seeding progressing, but emerged seedlings need warm weather. Fruit smudging necesary again last week. About 75% potatoes planted southwest, 35% south-central, and 10% east. Livestock good.

ILLINOIS: Sunny but cool early in week. Some freezing temperatures in north on 25th and 26th. Rain weekend exceeded 1.00 inch central, least in northeast. Highest temperatures of week on 30th ranged from 68° in north to 78° in south. Corn planting 2% completed, year ago 30%. Oat seeding 75% complete, last year virtually complete. Plowing about 80% complete, last year 95%. Wheat good to excellent, pastures good condition supplying 70% livestock roughage requirement. Red clover and alfalfa hay good condition. Alfalfa weevil causing some damage south. Main activities plowing, applying fertilizer, seeding oats, planting corn as weather permitted.

INDIANA: Sunny but cool early in week with temperatures from 27° north to 38° south coldest morning. Gradual warming, then cloudy on weekend with rain. Rainfall to 1.00 inch. Two days suitable fieldwork. Topsoil and subsoil moisture adequate to surplus. Pastures fair to good. Soils became progressively drier permitting some fieldwork Thursday and Friday. Plowing 55% complete, same as average. Oats 45% seeded, 2 weeks behind average. Wheat 9 inches high, 7 last year. Oats 2 inches high.

IOWA: Cold wet week. General rains and showers slowed fieldwork resulting in less than 4 days suitable for work. Many counties completed seeding oats, State 90% complete--somewhat behind last year and 5-year average. Corn planting less than 10% complete, about same as 5-year average, but behind last year's 20%. Plowing for 1972 crops, 80% complete, last year 90%. Feed supplied by pastures 47% below average, 49% average and 4% above average. Topsoil moisture 8% short, 71% adequate, and 21% surplus. Subsoil moisture 24% short, 70% adequate, and 6% surplus.

KANSAS: Stormy weather provided much needed rain most of State. Generally 0.50 to 2.00 inches. Still dry parts extreme southwest. Locally heavy rains to over 3.00 inches east-central. Hail, high winds, and tornadoes accompanied rains few localities. Large hail, over 2 inches diameter, parts Butler and Anderson Counties. Weekly mean temperatures averaged much below normal. One of lowest temperatures was 28° locally Cheyenne County early 24th. Pasture and crop prospects boosted by rains much of State. Wheat outlook generally improved, but parts southwest continued dry with drought damage many fields. Additional freeze damage becoming evident south-central. Small grains heading southern areas. Oat, spring barley, improved by additional moisture. Corn 25% planted, 33% last year and 22% average. Row crop planting slowed by wet fields. Alfalfa growing, but bothered by alfalfa weevil and tea aphids eastern Kansas. Large number cattle moved to pastures. Moisture spurred new growth pasture and range grasses. Supplemental feeding declined as grasses provided additional forage for cattle.

KENTUCKY: Temperatures below to much below normal until seasonable over weekend, averaging 3° to 6° below normal. Rainfall generally light, trace to 0.71 inch, occuring on 24th, 29th, and 30th. Minimum temperatures in 30's 1 or more locations 25th to 28th. Mostly sunny early in week and cloudy over weekend. Fieldwork 4 days as rain showers light. Soil moisture 61% adequate, 39% surplus. Plowing 2/3 completed--much behind usual. Corn planting nearly 10% complete, last year 57% and 1969 about 15%. Tobacco beds mostly good condition, few beds still being seeded. About 3/4 emerged tobacco plants size of a dime or less. Barley 2/3 heading. Some fields look excellent, others show affects of yellow dwarf and drowned out low spots. Wheat 16% heading. Alfalfa averages 10 inches, weevils very prevalent and spraying active as weather permits.

LOUISIANA: Temperature mild to warm. Weekly average normal to 4° below normal, largest departures north and central. Extremes: 89° Winnsboro Thurs-

day, 40° Ashland Tuesday. Rains statewide last of week. Thunderstorms sections of north over weekend. Weekly amounts light to moderate most areas but a few heavy. Weekly totals, traces to more than 3.00 inches south and more than 1.00 inch north. Greatest daily total, 2.96 inches, at Lafayette Saturday morning. Farmers active with seedbed preparation and planting. Application herbicides and fertilizers full swing. Rains Thursday slowed fieldwork some areas, but soil moisture remains short to adequate statewide. Percent planted to date compared with one year earlier; cotton 45 and 45; corn 85 and 85; rice 80 and 90. Soybeans, sorghum and sweetpotatoes planting increased, but not yet full scale. Good stands corn and cotton in fields that are up. Wheat and oats fair to good--some fields maturing. Pastures average--some 1st cuttings hay. Livestock condition good.

MARYLAND AND DELAWARE: Cool, moderating by weekend. Temperatures averaged 5° to 7° below normal. Extremes: 70's, mid-20's to mid-30's. Precipitation light, first time in April. Totals mostly less than 0.33 inch. April 1972 temperatures averaged below normal, precipitation above normal. Wet soils prevented fieldwork until midweek. Small grains growing slowly, barley starting to head. Corn planting limited to southern shore counties. Vegetable crop seeding slow. Tobacco plant beds have thin stands and some being reseeded. Scattered damage to fruit tree blooms low spots, but no widespread damage.

MICHIGAN: Blocking ridge, Hudsons Bay through Great Lakes, produced fair skies, seasonal maximums, cool minimums until slow warming and light showers weekend. Snow cover diminished rapidly Upper Peninsula where 4 to 8 inches remain in northwest. Temperatures averaged 1° above to 3° below normal Upper Peninsula, 1° to 5° below normal Lower Peninsula with largest departures south. Precipitation, none measurable Upper Peninsula, trace northern half increasing to 0.25 to 0.75 inch extreme south. Wet soil continues to slow fieldwork many farms. Soil moisture adequate to surplus all areas, but west-central, where moisture short. State averaged only 3.1 days suitable for fieldwork. Only 35% acreage plowed for spring crops. Oats 20% planted compared with 60% year ago. Less than 5% sugar beets and potatoes in. Corn planting started southern counties. Considerable winter injury to wheat appearing central and east-central Lower Peninsula. Cool weather slowed fruitbud development. Fruitbuds varied from dormant northwest to pre-pink extreme southwest. Planting early vegetables underway.

MINNESOTA: Warm dry week in north; cold damp in south. Temperatures 7° above normal in north, 3° below normal in south. International Falls had a weekly mean temperature of 51° compared to 48° at Rochester and Sioux Falls. Extremes: 73°, 12°. No rain in north, generally less than 0.30 inch in south, except early on May 1, very heavy rains of more than 2.00 inches in southwest. Snow cover 18 inches still in forests north of Lake Superior. Lakes are ice-covered north of a line from Detroit Lakes to Mille Lacs Lake. Fieldwork very slow, virtually none northwest, west-central because of wet fields. Late spring may alter farm crop plans. Percent small grains seeded: Spring wheat 3, normal 37; oats 17, normal 46; barley 1, normal 27; flax 5, normal 16. Percent land prepared: Corn 15, normal 25; soybeans 6, normal 9. Percent corn planted 1, normal 4. Percent processing peas planted 15, normal 17. Winter wheat, rye, hay fields, and pastures dormant north, fair south.

MISSISSIPPI: Severe thunderstorms early in week; otherwise fair and cool. Generally 1 day with rain, amounts mostly 0.30 to 1.20 inches. A few tornadoes north and central portions of State with damages estimated over $400,000; 6 persons injured in Covington or Jones Counties. Cooler; temperature averages mostly 4° to 6° below normal except near Gulf coast. Temperature extremes: 88°; 33°. Over weekend: Generally 1 day with rain; amounts ranging from 3.46 inches at Charleston to less than 0.10 inch parts of coastal division. Soil moisture mostly short southwest and southeast, other areas mostly adequate. Average 5 1/2 days suitable fieldwork. Oats 19%, wheat 12% ripe. Harvesting just starting in south. Cotton 55%, corn 57%, rice 70%, sorghum 15%, sweetpotatoes 21%, soybeans 1% planted. Cotton 16%, corn 46% up to stand. Corn, wheat, soybeans, Irish potatoes, truck crops, pastures, and livestock mostly good condition. Cotton, hay crops, peaches mostly fair.

MISSOURI: Cool wet week. Temperatures averaged 5° to 10° below normal due mostly to heavy cloudiness. Some frost Tuesday, April 25, as temperatures dipped into mid-30's. Rain about midweek soaked all but southeast with heavy rain. Most stations received 3.00 to 5.00 inches last 3 days of week with the heaviest north of Missouri River. Average 2 days fieldwork. Crops planted, corn 23%, cotton 12%, grain sorghum and soybeans 2%. Wheat and pasture mostly good condition. Soil moisture adequate.

MONTANA: Cooling midweek and strong cooling weekend. Temperatures averaged slightly below normal. Below normal precipitation western mountains, above normal amounts plains from weekend storm with local amounts exceeding 0.50 inch. Planting pace normal, spring wheat 40%, barley 50%, oats 45%, and sugar beets 65% seeded. Potatos and dry bean planting getting started, 10% seeded. Winter wheat generally good condition. Little reseeding being done. Range feed supply generally short. Supplemental feeding above normal. Ranch livestock 15% moved to summer pastures. Calving 85% complete, lambing and shearing 75% finished.

NEBRASKA: Cool wet week. Slow steady rains totaling 1.00 to 2.00 inches. Rain mixed with snow west and north. Thunderstorms and heavy showers east brought additional 1.00 to 3.00 inches Sunday night. Topsoil moisture adequate to surplus. Wheat prospects improved. Symptoms of both soil borne and wheat streak mosaic appeared additional fields. Fieldwork halted at midweek, but mostly ahead of normal. About 5% corn planted. Hay crops and pasture feed prospects much improved. Warmer weather needed for growth. Livestock condition good most areas.

NEVADA: Cool dry week. Temperatures 3° to 5° below normal. Winnemucca reported only measurable precipitation with 0.04 inch. Planting grain crops continues and potato planting underway. Cotton planting held back due to cold weather. Development grain crops and alfalfa hay hampered by cold weather. Cattle moving to spring and summer ranges with calving and lambing well along.

NEW ENGLAND: Sunny and dry. Quite cool until much warmer at weekend. Many maxima in 70's Sunday. Means mostly near normal along coast

but 4° to 8° below normal well inland. Precipitation mostly none to 0.10 inch. Season about 2 weeks later than normal. Vegetables being planted. Maple season over except in some northern areas.

NEW JERSEY: Temperatures averaged mostly from 5° to 7° below normal. Afternoon readings were generally from mid-50's to low 60's until weekend when readings reached the mid-70's. Overnight lows were mostly between the mid-30's and the mid-40's but a few stations reported readings in upper 20's on 28th. Rainfall was sparse averaging only 0.03 inch over North Jersey and 0.20 inch elsewhere. Rain Monday and again Sunday night. Cool nights slowing crop growth. Soil preparation and crop planting active. Light asparagus harvest begun. Spinach and greens moving to market. Tomato planting for fresh market underway. Peach bloom light on some varieties. Apples, blueberries, and strawberries look good. Apples and strawberries beginning to bloom some areas. Oats being planted. Soil preparation well advanced for field corn drilling.

NEW MEXICO: Continued dry. Coolest midweek. Lowest temperatures freezing in north. Temperatures averaged near normal most of State except below normal northwest. Topsoil moisture very short. Subsoil moisture short to very short. Grazing winter wheat active some areas. Grain for harvest fair to good, needs moisture. Barley, alfalfa hay fair to good. First cutting hay complete some areas. Lettuce harvest underway Mesilla Valley. Cotton fair to good some emerged. Ranges fair to poor. Some blowing. Livestock fair to good.

NEW YORK: Unseasonably cold through 28th as week ended one of the coldest Aprils on record. Minimums 18° to 28° most of Upstate several nights from 25th through 28th. Warming trend weekend as maximums in 40's to low 50's 24th to 27th increased to 70's on 30th. Sunshine generally abundant with no significant precipitation entire period. Snow cover of 12 inches or more remains in parts of Adirondacks. Cold temperatures holding back most field activity. Oat planting underway. Pasture and wheatfields beginning to green. Needed warmer temperatures now just arriving. Fields drying rapidly. Vegetable planting delayed by wet fields. Onion planting increasing western areas. Planting 85% complete Orange County. Potato planting about 1/2 finished Long Island. Starting Upstate. Fruit overwintered good condition. Buds now showing some green Hudson Valley and western New York. Grape tying half finished.

NORTH CAROLINA: Temperatures averaged below normal with highest in 70's and low 80's and lowest mostly in 30's. Frost and freezing temperatures mountains and scattered areas elsewhere on mornings of 26th, 27th, and 28th. Precipitation trace to 2.00 inches averaging 0.50 inch on 25th. Soil moisture adequate statewide. Major activities transplanting tobacco, planting corn, cotton, and soybeans. Flue-cured setting 35% complete. Burley seedbeds being prepared. Condition peaches and apples poor to good. Irish potatoes and truck crops fair to good growth slowed by unseasonably cold weather. Corn 60% planted, cotton 35% and soybeans 5%. Labor generally sufficient for demand.

NORTH DAKOTA: Partly cloudy with a few light scattered showers. Precipitation heaviest in southwest with totals near 0.30 inch. Temperatures averaged near normal except below normal southwest. Highest temperature, 70° at Fargo; lowest, 16° at Grassy Butte, McKencie. Favorable weather enabled farmers to start cultivating and seeding operations. Planting should move into high gear this week with warm sunny weather. Pastures beginning to green up. Calving and lambing over 3/4 completed.

OHIO: Temperatures generally below normal on 24th to 27th. Minimum temperatures on mornings of 25th and 26th were below freezing many areas. On morning of 26th, the lowest temperature was 25° which is about 15° below normal. Many new record low temperatures marks were set. On 28th to 30th, temperatures were near normal to 5° above normal. Precipitation amounts this week were low, less than 0.50 inches, which is in sharp contrast to high amounts of preceding weeks. 25th, 26th, 27th and 28th were generally dry. Rain showers and thunderstorms returned to the State on 29th and 30th. Drier weather welcomed by Ohio farmers allowing them to make progress in fieldwork late week. Progress limited to drier well-drained fields. Soil moisture supply surplus by 67% reported and adequate by 33%. Plowing for corn and soybeans 70% finished, last year 95% complete. Corn planting 5% in ground compared to 45% year earlier. Oat seeding 45% finished, average progress 80%. Sugar beet planting 45% done, last year over 95%. Tobacco beds 85% seeded, average 95%. Potato planting 1/5 complete, average 2/5. Winter wheat condition improved. Pastures good condition. Tart cherries starting to bloom, apple trees, full bloom by end next week in north.

OKLAHOMA: Drought conditions eased by beneficial rains and below-normal temperatures. Filling wheat heads boosted by weekend rains, but many acres too severely damaged by drought and freeze to benefit. About 3/4 crop rated fair to good, balance poor. Crop 4/5 heading, 1/10 dough -- about 1 week ahead year earlier. Development barley and oats also 1 week early. Some wheat acreage damaged by hail. Surface soil moisture before weekend rains rated 45% short, 52% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture 45% short, 55% adequate. Corn planting well underway Panhandle. Over 1/2 corn planted, 1/3 up to acceptable stand. Planting other row crops getting underway few areas, expected to accelerate rapidly following weekend rains. First cutting alfalfa hay severely damaged weevel and drought. Yields light. Pecans blooming. Other fruit prospects poor due early freezes. Growth native grasses eastern Oklahoma good following recent rains, slow other areas, but good growth expected following rains. Livestock mostly fair to good.

OREGON: Warming trend with several sunny days and showers during week. Temperatures averaged 3° to 5° below normal. Minima 18° to 27° east side, 27° to 34° west. Maxima 62° to 81°. Southeast quadrant again dry with other areas up to 0.10 inch except 0.30 to 0.90 inch Willamette Valley and 1.00 to 2.00 inches on coast, northern Cascades. Most farm activities hampered by cool, wet weather western Oregon. Spring grain planting, not much progress west, nearing completion east. Radish and rhubarb harvest underway. Planting and transplanting vegetables gaining momentum. Continued replanting sugarbeets frozen out earlier. Frost damage appearing in fruit. Extent still uncertain protected orchards. Concern over adequate pollination. Poor bee activity due to weather. Pasture and range feed growth slowed. Some Grass Tetany coastal areas. Most cattle on pasture, but some still being fed Rye grass seed -- sheep pastures good.

PENNSYLVANIA: Fair cool week as nearly stationary high pressure area settled over region. Few very light showers Monday, with snow flurries northwest, and scattered light showers and thunderstorms Sunday. Otherwise, week dry. No measurable precipitation parts of east and north, under 1.10 inch most other areas, except 0.20 to 0.40 inch scattered areas in west. Temperatures 4° to 8° below normal. Widespread freezing temperatures first half of week. Slow warming latter half. Extremes: 74°, 18°. Frost and sub-freezing temperatures hit some peaches in bloom. Soil conditions improved, fieldwork behind schedule. Spring plowing 40% completed. Oat seeding 35%. Potato planting underway, 15% finished. Tobacco seedbeds finished, look normal. Corn planting just starting. Condition hay mostly good, pastures mostly average.

PUERTO RICO: Rainfall averaged 1.55 inches or about 0.25 inch above normal. Heavy rain showers end of week in western and eastern sections. Highest weekly total, 6.79 inches in northwest with 6.02 inches in 1 day. Eastern mountains reported 6.71 inches weekly total. Dry belt through center of Island with generally less than 0.50 inch. Crop moisture conditions near normal except too wet some western zones and too dry some central-interior zones. Agricultural drought northwest eased by rains. Temperatures averaged 77° on coast and 72° to 73° interior with mean departure of 2.2° below normal. Highest maximum, 93°; lowest minimum, 53°. Sugar cane harvesting operations progressed well except minor delays southeast due heavy rains. Some planting and fertilizing delays northwest due lack of rain. Rains southwest caused some yield decrease. Some aphid damage west. Coffee plantations central-interior lack of rain affected flowering, but further west good development. Tobacco plantations good progress harvesting and curing with some new plantings. Pastures generally good to excellent all zones,except northwest, where poor to fair due lack of rain. Heavy rains end of week eased agricultural drought this area. Some minor zones report lack of rain retarded development and made soil preparation difficult. Good harvest lettuce and egg plants. Pepper and tomato planting underway some eastern zones.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Rainfall totaled 0.50 to 0.75 inch n northwest and amounts decreased toward southeast. Most of coastal Plain had less than 0.25 inch. Temperatures averaged 4° to 6° below normal as cold air brought low's in 30's on 26th, 27th, and 28th and frost some colder locations. Planting and land preparation major activities. Soil moisture short Sandhills and Coastal Area. Tobacco good condition, transplanting 86%, 72% last year. Corn 81%, cotton 67% planted, compared with 75% and 56%, respectively. last year. Small grains, hay crops, and pastures fair to good. Wheat 70% and oats 74% headed. Small grains 3% turned color. Soybean and sorghum planting underway. Peaches fair condition. Vegetable crops fair to good. Watermelon planting essentially complete. Peanut planting 29% and sweetpotatoes 20% in compared with 30% and 14% last year.

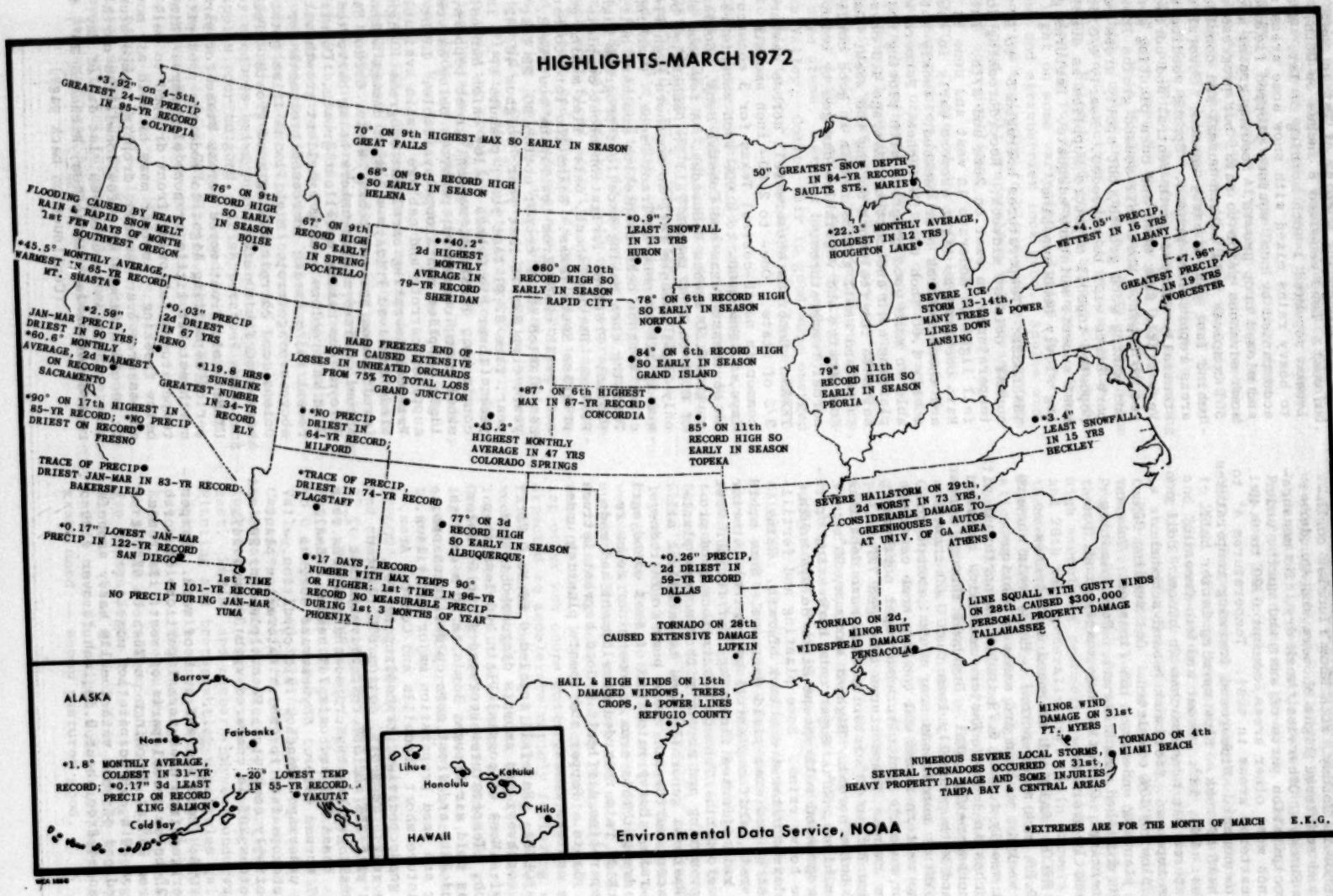
SOUTH DAKOTA: Cool and wet much of week. Temperatures averaged from near normal portions of northeast to 7° below normal parts of west. Extremes ranged from 23° at Brookings on 25th to 67° at Aberdeen on 30th. Precipitation mostly rain middle and end of week with locally heavy amounts. Totals ranged from about 0.50 inch to over 4.00 inches. From 2.00 to over 3.00 inches for 24-hour period ending morning of 1st in east. Snow in west. Lead received 8 inches on 26th. Lemmon reported 1 inch morning of 1st. Moderate to heavy rains mixed with snow some areas and accompanied by cool weather stopped fieldwork and slowed crop growth. Seeding grains made some advances prior to rain, but progress at 50% complete well behind normal and considerably behind last year's early season. Several early areas report some growth. Spring seeding substantially delayed north-central and northeast. Very little flax sown and corn planting generally yet to begin. Most fall-seeded grains look good and making good growth, but spotty areas central part State will be reseeded. Nearly 1/3 State reported topsoil moisture supplies as surplus, and most subsoil moisture adequate. Pastures growing slowly need sunshine.

TENNESSEE: Temperatures averaged 5° to 9° below normal, coldest midweek. Recordbreaking low temperatures in east on 26th and 27th. Rainfall light to moderate in west and none in east. Rain occurred as light showers early in week and thunderstorms over weekend. Weekly totals mostly 1.00 inch to 1.50 inches. Farmers were able to make good progress with plowing and planting corn and cotton. Average 4.3 days suitable for fieldwork during the week. Pastures and small grains remain in good condition. Some fruits and vegetables damaged by below-normal temperatures.

TEXAS: Generous showers fell across eastern 2/3 of State. One- to 2.00- inch amounts common in north-central Texas for 3 consecutive days. A few 3.00- to 4.00- inch amounts reported in southeast Texas and Coastal Bend. Goliad caught 6.50 inches Wednesday. A few good showers of 0.50 to 1.50 inches fell in Panhandle, but only light amounts fell in southern High Plains and little or none in Trans-Pecos. Planting cotton, corn, sorghum near completion southern half. Planting corn making excellent progress High Plains. Preplant irrigation about complete High Plains. Harvest wheat, oats, flax making good progress South Texas. Rains too late to benefit most grain crops from Low Plains southward. Percent planted major crops; cotton 30, 22 last year; corn 82, 76 last year; sorghum 46, 42 last year; rice 97,91 last year; peanuts 17, 8 last year. Lower Rio Grande Valley onion harvest continues. Tomatoes, squash, green peppers, sweet corn, cucumbers, potatoes being harvested. Light supplies cantaloupe available. Light supplies carrots and cabbage remain available. Watermelons making excellent progress. High winds received Friday -- extent damage unknown. Laredo onion harvest peak. Winter Garden San Antonio onions and cucumbers being harvested. Watermelons making excellent growth. Coastal Bend watermelons making excellent growth with recent rains having increased prospects for above average crop. High Plains Irish potatoes, onions, and carrots making good growth. Pecans have good fruit set.

UTAH: Cold front moved across State forepart of period depositing light to moderate precipitation northwest but little or none elsewhere. Minimum temperatures following front dropped to well below freezing. Another mass of cold air moved across area over weekend, dropping temperatures to record minimums at a few localities northwest. Lewiston reported 19° 1st day of May, a record for so late in season, Richmond 20°, to

(Continued on back page)


HIGHLIGHTS-MARCH 1972
*3.92" on 4-5th, GREATEST 24-HR PRECIP IN 95-YR RECORD OLYMPIA
70° ON 9th HIGHEST MAX SO EARLY IN SEASON GREAT FALLS
68° ON 9th RECORD HIGH SO EARLY IN SEASON HELENA
76° ON 9th RECORD HIGH SO EARLY IN SEASON BOISE
FLOODING CAUSED BY HEAVY RAIN & RAPID SNOW MELT 1st FEW DAYS OF MONTH SOUTHWEST OREGON
67° ON 9th RECORD HIGH SO EARLY IN SPRING POCATELLO
*40.2° 2d HIGHEST MONTHLY AVERAGE IN 79-YR RECORD SHERIDAN
*45.5° MONTHLY AVERAGE, WARMEST IN 68-YR RECORD MT. SHASTA
*2.58" JAN-MAR PRECIP, DRIEST IN 90 YRS; *60.6° MONTHLY AVERAGE, 2d WARMEST ON RECORD SACRAMENTO
*0.03" PRECIP 2d DRIEST IN 67 YRS RENO
*119.8 HRS SUNSHINE GREATEST NUMBER IN 34-YR RECORD ELY
*90° ON 17th HIGHEST IN 85-YR RECORD; *NO PRECIP DRIEST ON RECORD FRESNO
TRACE OF PRECIP DRIEST JAN-MAR IN 83-YR RECORD BAKERSFIELD
*0.17" LOWEST JAN-MAR PRECIP IN 122-YR RECORD SAN DIEGO
1st TIME IN 101-YR RECORD NO PRECIP DURING JAN-MAR YUMA
HARD FREEZES END OF MONTH CAUSED EXTENSIVE LOSSES IN UNHEATED ORCHARDS FROM 75% TO TOTAL LOSS GRAND JUNCTION
*NO PRECIP DRIEST IN 64-YR RECORD; MILFORD
*TRACE OF PRECIP, DRIEST IN 74-YR RECORD FLAGSTAFF
*17 DAYS, RECORD NUMBER WITH MAX TEMPS 90° OR HIGHER; 1st TIME IN 96-YR RECORD NO MEASURABLE PRECIP DURING 1st 3 MONTHS OF YEAR PHOENIX
77° ON 3d RECORD HIGH SO EARLY IN SEASON ALBUQUERQUE
*43.2° HIGHEST MONTHLY AVERAGE IN 47 YRS COLORADO SPRINGS
*0.9" LEAST SNOWFALL IN 13 YRS HURON
80° ON 10th RECORD HIGH SO EARLY IN SEASON RAPID CITY
78° ON 6th RECORD HIGH SO EARLY IN SEASON NORFOLK
84° ON 6th RECORD HIGH SO EARLY IN SEASON GRAND ISLAND
*87° ON 6th HIGHEST MAX IN 87-YR RECORD CONCORDIA
85° ON 11th RECORD HIGH SO EARLY IN SEASON TOPEKA
*0.26" PRECIP, 2d DRIEST IN 59-YR RECORD DALLAS
TORNADO ON 28th CAUSED EXTENSIVE DAMAGE LUFKIN
HAIL & HIGH WINDS ON 15th DAMAGED WINDOWS, TREES, CROPS, & POWER LINES REFUGIO COUNTY
50" GREATEST SNOW DEPTH IN 84-YR RECORD SAULTE STE. MARIE
*22.3° MONTHLY AVERAGE, COLDEST IN 12 YRS HOUGHTON LAKE
79° ON 11th RECORD HIGH SO EARLY IN SEASON PEORIA
SEVERE ICE STORM 13-14th, MANY TREES & POWER LINES DOWN LANSING
*4.05" PRECIP, WETTEST IN 16 YRS ALBANY
*7.96" GREATEST PRECIP IN 19 YRS WORCESTER
*3.4" LEAST SNOWFALL IN 15 YRS BECKLEY
SEVERE HAILSTORM ON 29th, 2d WORST IN 73 YRS, CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE TO GREENHOUSES & AUTOS AT UNIV. OF GA AREA ATHENS
LINE SQUALL WITH GUSTY WINDS ON 28th CAUSED $300,000 PERSONAL PROPERTY DAMAGE TALLAHASSEE
TORNADO ON 2d, MINOR BUT WIDESPREAD DAMAGE PENSACOLA
MINOR WIND DAMAGE ON 31st FT. MYERS
TORNADO ON 4th MIAMI BEACH
NUMEROUS SEVERE LOCAL STORMS, SEVERAL TORNADOES OCCURRED ON 31st, HEAVY PROPERTY DAMAGE AND SOME INJURIES TAMPA BAY & CENTRAL AREAS
ALASKA
Barrow
Nome
Fairbanks
*1.8° MONTHLY AVERAGE, COLDEST IN 31-YR RECORD; *0.17" 3d LEAST PRECIP ON RECORD KING SALMON
*-20° LOWEST TEMP IN 55-YR RECORD YAKUTAT
Cold Bay
HAWAII
Lihue
Honolulu
Kahului
Hilo
Environmental Data Service, NOAA
*EXTREMES ARE FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH
E.K.G.

NORMAL DAILY MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE (°F), MAY
ALASKA
INSUFFICIENT DATA FOR ISOLINES
HAWAII
GULF OF MEXICO
NOTE --CAUTION SHOULD BE USED IN INTERPOLATING OF THESE GENERALIZED MAPS. SHARP CHANGES MAY OCCUR IN SHORT DISTANCES, PARTICULARLY IN MOUNTAINOUS AREAS, DUE TO DIFFERENCES IN ALTITUDE, SLOPE OF LAND, TYPE OF SOIL, VEGETATIVE COVER, BODIES OF WATER, AIR DRAINAGE, URBAN HEAT EFFECTS, ETC.
PATTERN TOO COMPLEX IN HAWAII TO INDICATE ON SMALL SCALE MAPS.
THESE CHARTS ARE BASED ON THE PERIOD 1931-60.

NORMAL DAILY MINIMUM TEMPERATURE (°F), MAY
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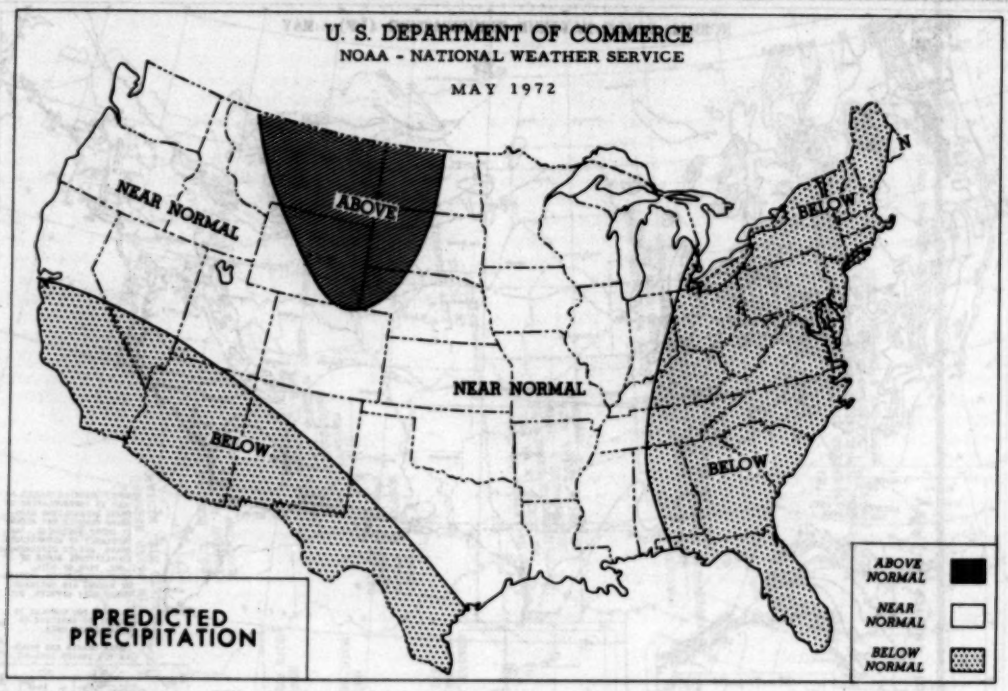
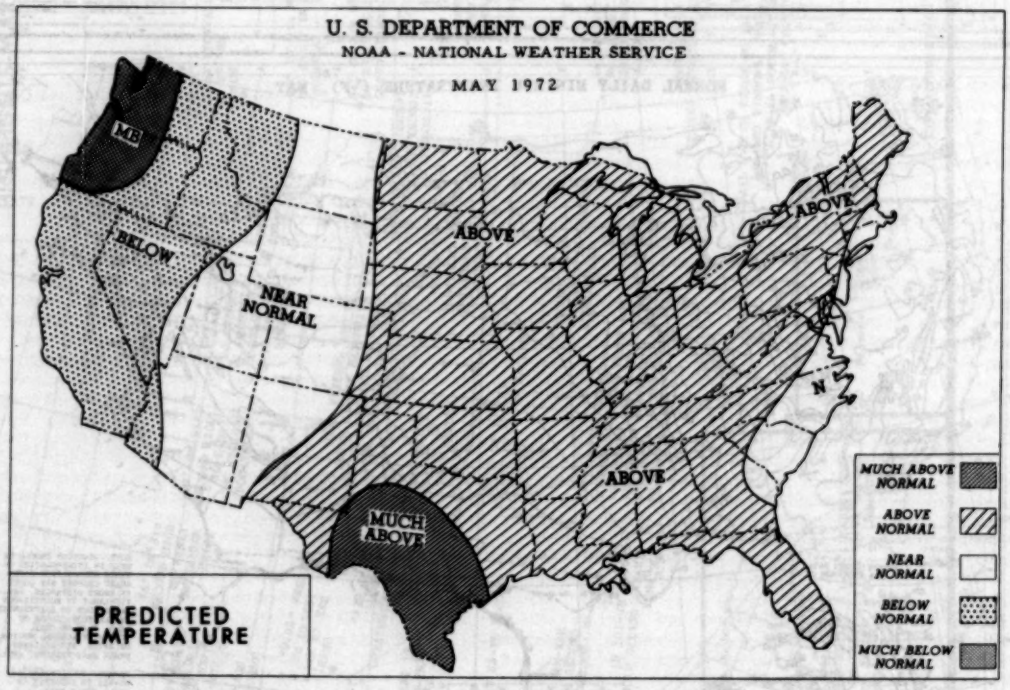
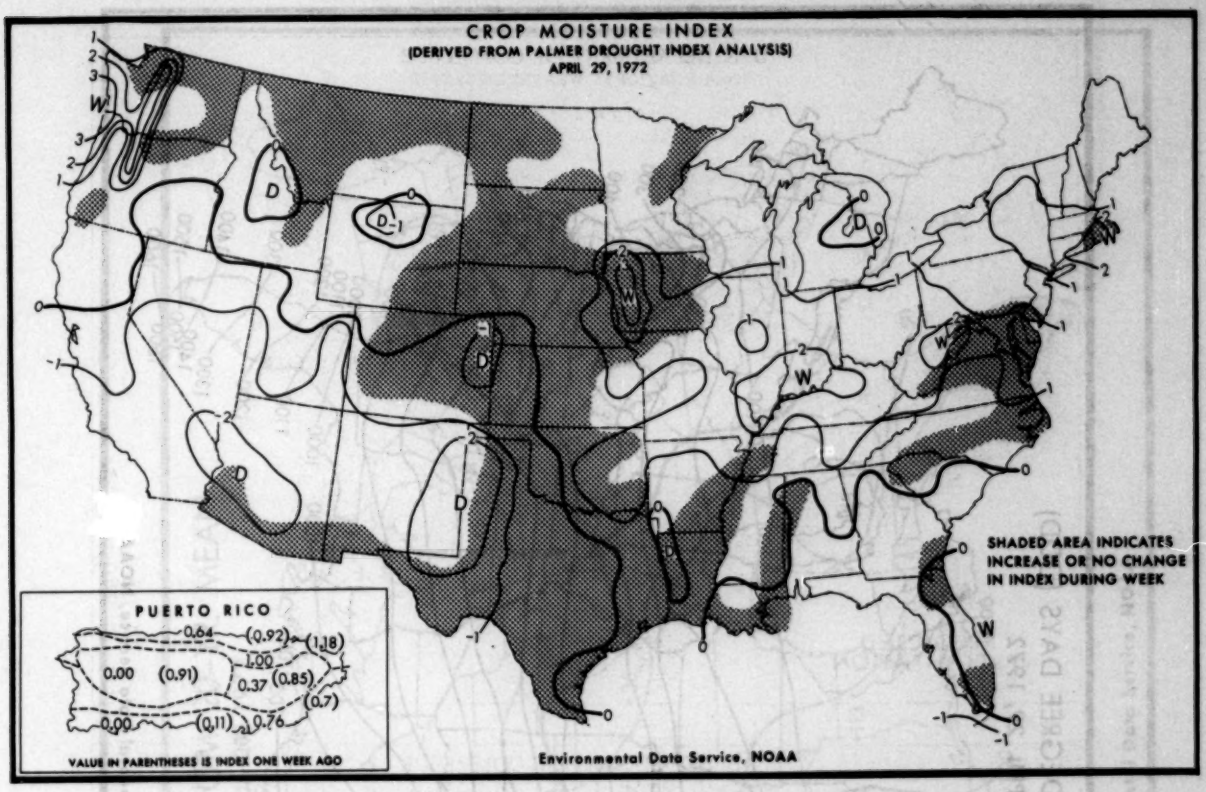
THESE CHARTS ARE BASED ON THE PERIOD 1931-60.

AVERAGE MONTHLY WEATHER OUTLOOK





The above prognostic charts show the expected categories of average temperature and total precipitation for the period indicated. They were extracted from the Extended Forecast Division's publication "Average Monthly Weather Outlook" which contains additional information necessary for complete interpretation.



INDEX DECREASED DURING WEEK
(Unshaded Areas)

INDEX	
ABOVE	3.0 SOME DRYING, BUT STILL EXCESSIVELY WET.
2.0 to	3.0 MORE DRY WEATHER NEEDED, WORK DELAYED.
1.0 to	2.0 FAVORABLE, EXCEPT STILL TOO WET IN SPOTS.
0 to	1.0 FAVORABLE FOR NORMAL GROWTH AND FIELDWORK.
0 to	-1.0 TOPSOIL MOISTURE SHORT, GERMINATION SLOW.
-1.0 to	-2.0 ABNORMALLY DRY, PROSPECTS DETERIORATING.
-2.0 to	-3.0 TOO DRY, YIELD PROSPECTS REDUCED.
-3.0 to	-4.0 POTENTIAL YIELDS SEVERELY CUT BY DROUGHT.
BELOW	-4.0 EXCEPTIONALLY DRY, MOST CROPS ABOUT RUINED

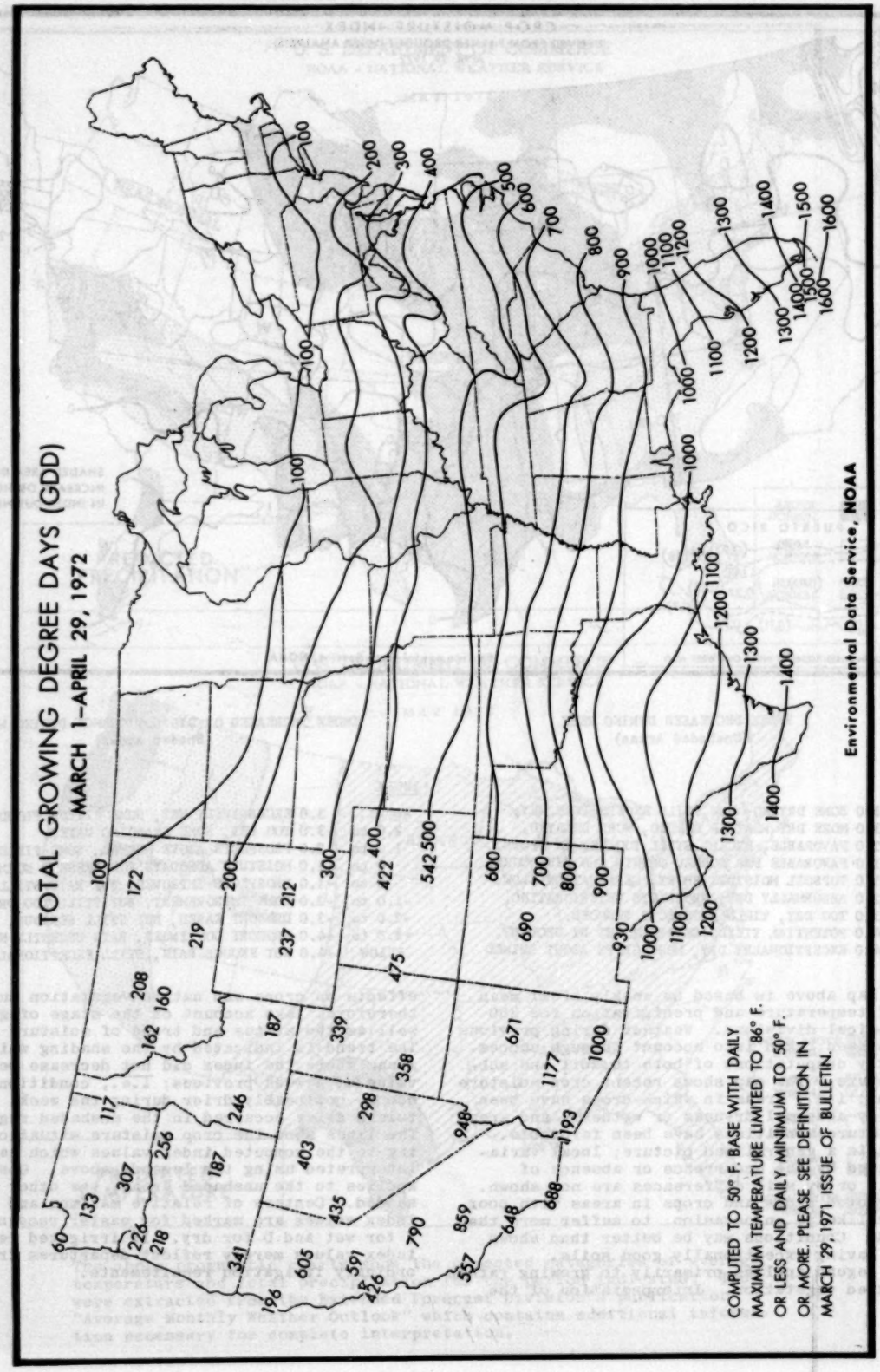
INDEX INCREASED OR DID NOT CHANGE DURING WEEK
(Shaded areas)

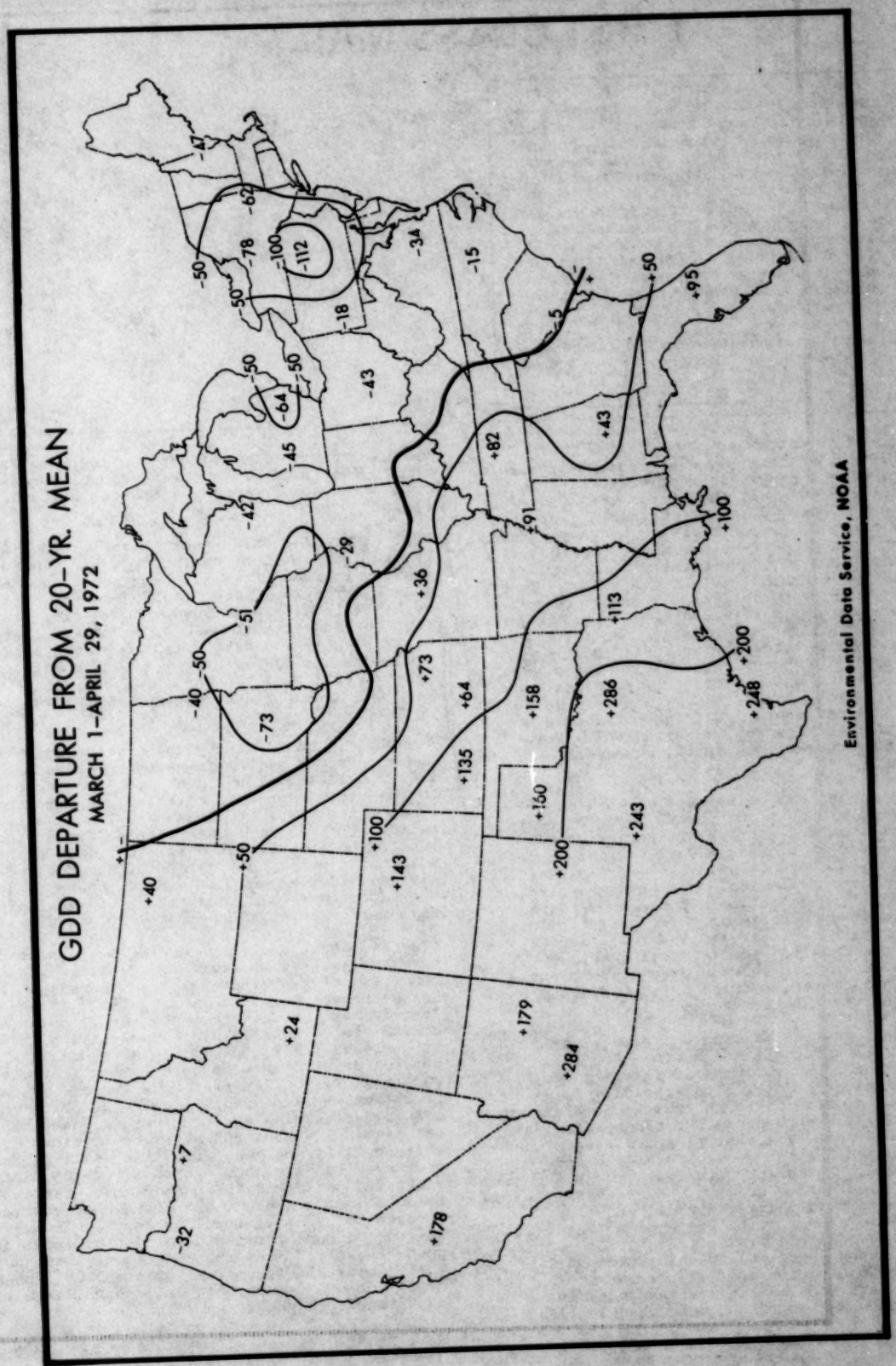
INDEX	
ABOVE	3.0 EXCESSIVELY WET, SOME FIELDS FLOODED.
2.0 to	3.0 TOO WET, SOME STANDING WATER.
1.0 to	2.0 PROSPECTS ABOVE NORMAL, SOME FIELDS TOO WET.
0 to	1.0 MOISTURE ADEQUATE FOR PRESENT NORMAL NEEDS.
0 to	-1.0 PROSPECTS IMPROVED, BUT RAIN STILL NEEDED.
-1.0 to	-2.0 SOME IMPROVEMENT, BUT STILL TOO DRY.
-2.0 to	-3.0 DROUGHT EASED, BUT STILL SERIOUS.
-3.0 to	-4.0 DROUGHT CONTINUES, RAIN URGENTLY NEEDED.
BELOW	-4.0 NOT ENOUGH RAIN, STILL EXCEPTIONALLY DRY.

The map above is based on weekly areal mean values of temperature and precipitation for 350 climatological divisions. Weather during previous weeks has been taken into account through successive weekly computations of both topsoil and subsoil moisture. The map shows recent crop moisture conditions; i.e., areas in which crops have been hindered by abnormal dryness or wetness, and areas where moisture conditions have been favorable.

This is a generalized picture; local variations caused by the occurrence or absence of heavy rain or by soil differences are not shown. Shallow rooted crops and crops in areas with poor soils are likely, on occasion, to suffer more than indicated. Conditions may be better than shown in areas having exceptionally good soils.

The legend applies primarily to growing rather than matured vegetation. Interpretation of the effects on crops and native vegetation must, therefore, take account of the stage of growth as well as the status and trend of moisture conditions. The trend is indicated by the shading which denotes areas where the index did not decrease below its value of a week previous; i.e., conditions did not become noticeably drier during the week. A trend toward drier occurred in the unshaded regions. The lines show the crop moisture situation according to the computed index values which may be interpreted using the legends above. One legend applies to the unshaded areas, the other to the shaded. Centers of relative maximum and minimum index values are marked for easier recognition - W for wet and D for dry. In irrigated regions the index values merely reflect departures from ordinary irrigation requirements.


TOTAL GROWING DEGREE DAYS (GDD)
MARCH 1–APRIL 29, 1972
COMPUTED TO 50° F. BASE WITH DAILY MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE LIMITED TO 86° F. OR LESS AND DAILY MINIMUM TO 50° F. OR MORE. PLEASE SEE DEFINITION IN MARCH 29, 1971 ISSUE OF BULLETIN.
Environmental Data Service, NOAA


GDD DEPARTURE FROM 20-YR. MEAN
MARCH 1–APRIL 29, 1972
Environmental Data Service, NOAA

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Questions and comments are invited; please send to Editor in Agricultural Climatology Service Office, address above.

(UTAH continued from page 9)
tie record for coldest May day. Soil temperatures, at 4-inch depth, ranged from upper 40's Cache Valley to near 50° Salt Lake City, low 50's Richfield and near 70° at St. George. Crops reeling from extended period of freezing temperatures following much milder weather first quarter of year. Many days with subfreezing temperatures since last week March, including May 1st. Much of Utah's 6 fruit crops destroyed. Growth other spring-planted crops retarded by successive freezes. Winter wheat condition good major counties. Planting 90% completed spring wheat, 80% oats, 85% for barley, 85% sugar beets, 10% field corn, 5% sweet corn -- not started fall potatoes or tomatoes. Spring range feed prospects good north, fair central and south. Calving 85% completed. Range outfit lambing 30%, shearing 65%. Movement cattle and sheep to spring rangelands 45% completed.

VIRGINIA: Cold wet weather slowed work early in week. Temperatures below normal becoming near normal over weekend. Freezing temperatures many locations at midweek. Mostly light showers at beginning and over weekend. Corn 1/4 planted; little up Lower Tidewater. Few soybeans planted, peanuts 5% planted, cotton 33% planted. Cared for tobacco beds and prepared fields for planting. Hay and pasture growth little slow. Set cabbage Carroll County. Tomato setting active. Frost damage northern neck. Snap beans planted Eastern Shore as soils dried out. Apples full bloom Winchester and southwest.

WASHINGTON: Western Washington: The 1 day of summer was insufficient and weather for the period was cool and wet. Brief flurry field activity included planting vegetables, grains, and pasture grasses although growth crops already planted slow. Freeze damage to caneberries estimated at 20% potential crop King and Pierce Counties. Rhubarb harvest continues active and about 75% complete. Pasture growth improved, but remains too wet for extensive grazing. Eastern Washington: Warm days and cold nights resulted in below-average temperatures with little or no rainfall. Planting and soil preparation activities continuing. Asparagus cutting increasing, but still behind schedule due to cool temperatures. Alfalfa and pasture growth also remained slow for same reason. Small grains, peas, and lentils being planted. Bee activity on increase Yakima and Chelan fruit areas. Wind damage necessitated replanting some potatoes and sugar beets Columbia Basin.

WEST VIRGINIA: Rainy spell finally ended April 25, followed by cool northerly winds and sunny weather balance of week. Many areas had heavy freeze April 26. Light thundershowers April 30. Weekly rainfall above 1.00 inch most of State. Crop development set back by frost and freeze. Soils too wet to work, 2 1/2 to 3 days suitable fieldwork. Slightly over 1/4 spring oats and potatoes planted. Tobacco beds 80% seeded, with 50% having plants emerged. Pastures continue fair.

WISCONSIN: Mostly sunny and dry during week though turning wet again as period ended. Good start on fieldwork but much still to be done. Latest start since the cold and wet 1965 season. Frost finally out of ground and the last snow melted North Woods. Oats planted and spring plowing both about 10% completed. Few peas and potatoes planted on lighter soils. Tobacco beds steamed and planted. Also much manure to haul. Work done on fencing and fixing of machinery. Soil moisture 70% adequate and 30% surplus.

WYOMING: Rain and snow much of State midweek; heaviest in eastern quarter. Blowing snow caused some road closing Wednesday and Thursday. La Grange reported most moisture with 2.42 inches. Temperatures averaged from near to 7° below normal. Maxima varied greatly statewide, with high 50's in northeast, low 70's in Big Horn Drianage, and 60's elsewhere. Minima were mostly teens to mid-20's statewide. Temperature extremes: 74° at Lovell and Worland and 11° Jackson. Main agricultural activities spring planting, calving, and lambing. About 80% sugar beets planted, while only 5% emerged. Planting small grains continues to make good progress with 65% spring wheat 70% oats, and 80% barley sown. About 20% oats, 25% spring wheat and 30% barley emerged. Surface and subsoil moisture supplies mostly adequate. Current prospects for winter wheat crop good. Nearly 75% spring calves have been dropped, while about 85% farm flock ewes and 35% range ewes lambed. Losses both calves and lambs reportedly running light to normal.